

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



**IN THE MATTER OF AN
ENFORCEMENT ACTION
CONCERNING
NIMAT ENTERPRISE, INC. DBA
A & R FOOD STORE
RN101433290**

**§ BEFORE THE
§
§ TEXAS COMMISSION ON
§
§
§ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

AGREED ORDER DOCKET NO. 2016-0584-PST-E

I. JURISDICTION AND STIPULATIONS

On DEC 06 2016, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("the Commission" or "TCEQ") considered this agreement of the parties, resolving an enforcement action regarding Nimat Enterprise, Inc. dba A & R Food Store (the "Respondent") under the authority of TEX. WATER CODE chs. 7 and 26. The Executive Director of the TCEQ, through the Enforcement Division, and the Respondent together stipulate that:

1. The Respondent owns and operates, as defined in 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.2(73) and (70), an underground storage tank ("UST") system and a convenience store with retail sales of gasoline located at 5960 West Poly Webb Road in Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas (the "Facility"). The UST system at the Facility is not exempt or excluded from regulation under the Texas Water Code or the rules of the Commission, and contains or contained a regulated petroleum substance as defined in the rules of the TCEQ.
2. The Executive Director and the Respondent agree that the TCEQ has jurisdiction to enter this Order pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE §§ 7.002, 7.051, and 7.073, and that the Respondent is subject to TCEQ's jurisdiction. The TCEQ has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE § 5.013 because it alleges violations of TEX. WATER CODE ch. 26 and the rules of the TCEQ.
3. The occurrence of any violation is in dispute and the entry of this Order shall not constitute an admission by the Respondent of any violation alleged in Section II ("Allegations"), nor of any statute or rule.
4. An administrative penalty in the amount of \$4,876 is assessed by the Commission in settlement of the violations alleged in Section II ("Allegations"). The Respondent paid \$326 of the penalty and \$975 is deferred contingent upon the Respondent's timely and satisfactory compliance with all the terms of this Order and shall be waived only upon full compliance with all the terms and conditions of the this Order.

The remaining amount of \$3,575 of the undeferred penalty shall be paid in 11 monthly payments of \$325 each. The first monthly payment shall be paid within 30 days after the effective date of this Order. The subsequent payments shall each be paid not later than

30 days following the due date of the previous payment until the penalty is paid in full. If the Respondent fails to comply with the payment requirements of this Order, including the payment schedule, the Executive Director may accelerate the maturity of the remaining installments, in which event the unpaid balance shall become immediately due and payable without demand or notice. The Respondent's failure to meet the payment schedule of this Order and/or the acceleration of any remaining balance constitutes the failure by the Respondent to timely and satisfactorily comply with all the terms and conditions of this Order and the Executive Director may demand payment of all or part of the deferred penalty amount.

5. The Executive Director and the Respondent agree on a settlement of the matters alleged in this enforcement action, subject to final approval in accordance with 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 70.10(a). Any notice and procedures, which might otherwise be authorized or required in this action, are waived in the interest of a more timely resolution of the matter.
6. The Executive Director may, without further notice or hearing, refer this matter to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Texas ("OAG") for further enforcement proceedings if the Executive Director determines that the Respondent has not complied with one or more of the terms or conditions in this Order.
7. This Order represents the complete and fully-integrated agreement of the parties. The provisions of this Order are deemed severable and, if a court of competent jurisdiction or other appropriate authority deems any provision of this Order unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be valid and enforceable.
8. This Order shall terminate five years from its effective date or upon compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Order, whichever is later.
9. The Executive Director recognizes that the Respondent implemented the following corrective measures at the Facility:
 - a. Implemented a proper release detection method for the USTs on March 30, 2016; and
 - b. Installed and tested cathodic protection for the metal product piping fittings and the submersible turbine pumps ("STPs") associated with the UST system on March 24, 2016.

II. ALLEGATIONS

During an investigation conducted on February 18, 2016, an investigator documented that the Respondent:

1. Failed to monitor the USTs for releases at a frequency of at least once every month (not to exceed 35 days between each monitoring), in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.50(b)(1)(A) and TEX. WATER CODE § 26.3475(c)(1). Specifically, the automatic tank gauge was not conducting monthly leak tests on the regular unleaded tank.

2. Failed to ensure that corrosion protection is provided to all underground metal components of a UST system, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.49(a)(1) and TEX. WATER CODE § 26.3475(d). Specifically, the metal product piping fittings and the STPs did not have corrosion protection.

III. DENIALS

The Respondent generally denies each allegation in Section II ("Allegations").

IV. ORDERING PROVISIONS

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ORDERS that:

1. The Respondent is assessed a penalty as set forth in Section I, Paragraph 4. The payment of this penalty and the Respondent's compliance with all of the requirements set forth in this Order resolve only the allegations in Section II. The Commission shall not be constrained in any manner from requiring corrective action or penalties for violations which are not raised here. Penalty payments shall be made payable to "TCEQ" and shall be sent with the notation "Re: Nimat Enterprise, Inc. dba A & R Food Store, Docket No. 2016-0584-PST-E" to:

Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section
Attention: Cashier's Office, MC 214
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13088
Austin, Texas 78711-3088
2. All relief not expressly granted in this Order is denied.
3. The duties and provisions imposed by this Order shall apply to and be binding upon the Respondent. The Respondent is ordered to give notice of this Order to personnel who maintain day-to-day control over the Facility operations referenced in this Order.
4. If the Respondent fails to comply with any of the Ordering Provisions in this Order within the prescribed schedules, and that failure is caused solely by an act of God, war, strike, riot, or other catastrophe, the Respondent's failure to comply is not a violation of this Order. The Respondent shall have the burden of establishing to the Executive Director's satisfaction that such an event has occurred. The Respondent shall notify the Executive Director within seven days after the Respondent becomes aware of a delaying event and shall take all reasonable measures to mitigate and minimize any delay.
5. The Executive Director may grant an extension of any deadline in this Order or in any plan, report, or other document submitted pursuant to this Order, upon a written and substantiated showing of good cause. All requests for extensions by the Respondent shall be made in writing to the Executive Director. Extensions are not effective until the Respondent receives written approval from the Executive Director. The determination of what constitutes good cause rests solely with the Executive Director.

6. This Order, issued by the Commission, shall not be admissible against the Respondent in a civil proceeding, unless the proceeding is brought by the OAG to: (1) enforce the terms of this Order; or (2) pursue violations of a statute within the Commission's jurisdiction, or of a rule adopted or an order or permit issued by the Commission under such a statute.
7. This Order may be executed in separate and multiple counterparts, which together shall constitute a single instrument. Any page of this Order may be copied, scanned, digitized, converted to electronic portable document format ("pdf"), or otherwise reproduced and may be transmitted by digital or electronic transmission, including but not limited to facsimile transmission and electronic mail. Any signature affixed to this Order shall constitute an original signature for all purposes and may be used, filed, substituted, or issued for any purpose for which an original signature could be used. The term "signature" shall include manual signatures and true and accurate reproductions of manual signatures created, executed, endorsed, adopted, or authorized by the person or persons to whom the signatures are attributable. Signatures may be copied or reproduced digitally, electronically, by photocopying, engraving, imprinting, lithographing, electronic mail, facsimile transmission, stamping, or any other means or process which the Executive Director deems acceptable. In this paragraph exclusively, the terms: electronic transmission, owner, person, writing, and written, shall have the meanings assigned to them under TEX. BUS. ORG. CODE § 1.002.
8. The effective date of this Order is the date it is signed by the Commission. A copy of this fully executed Order shall be provided to each of the parties.

SIGNATURE PAGE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For the Commission

Date

For Ramiro Garcia, Jr.
For the Executive Director

12.6.16
Date

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the attached Order. I am authorized to agree to the attached Order, and I do agree to the terms and conditions specified therein. I further acknowledge that the TCEQ, in accepting payment for the penalty amount, is materially relying on such representation.

I also understand that failure to comply with the Ordering Provisions, if any, in this order and/or failure to timely pay the penalty amount, may result in:

- A negative impact on compliance history;
- Greater scrutiny of any permit applications submitted;
- Referral of this case to the Attorney General's Office for contempt, injunctive relief, additional penalties, and/or attorney fees, or to a collection agency;
- Increased penalties in any future enforcement actions;
- Automatic referral to the Attorney General's Office of any future enforcement actions; and
- TCEQ seeking other relief as authorized by law.

In addition, any falsification of any compliance documents may result in criminal prosecution.

Razbar Farishta
Signature

08/04/16
Date

RAZBAR FARISHTA
Name (Printed or typed)
Authorized Representative of
Nimat Enterprise, Inc. dba A & R Food Store

OWNER
Title

Instructions: Send the original, signed Order with penalty payment to the Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section at the address in Section IV, Paragraph 1 of this Order.

☐ If mailing address has changed, please check this box and provide the new address below:

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., *Chairman*
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*
Jon Niermann, *Commissioner*
Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

December 9, 2016

Ms. Razbar Farishta
Manager
Nimat Enterprise, Inc.
5960 West Poly Webb Road
Arlington, Texas 76016

Re: TCEQ Enforcement Action
Nimat Enterprise, Inc. dba A & R Food Store
Docket No. 2016-0584-PST-E

Dear Ms. Farishta:

Enclosed for your records is a fully-executed copy of the Agreed Order for the above-referenced matter.

Please review the enclosed Agreed Order, particularly the "Ordering Provisions" section, to determine if further action will be required of you, such as the completion of technical requirements to achieve compliance. When technical requirements are listed (usually Ordering Provision No. 2 or 3), a deadline will be provided based on a specific number of days after the effective date. The effective date is as stated in the enclosed Agreed Order.

Should you have any questions, please contact Daniell Porras, the Enforcement Coordinator assigned to this matter, at (713) 767-3682.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Parrish".

Michael Parrish
Enforcement Division

Enclosure

cc: Daniell Porras, Enforcement Division
Waste Section Manager, Region 4